

## **AMERICAN HIP-HOP ARTIST DYNAMAX ROCKS KISUMU, NAIROBI**

The U.S. Embassy was pleased to present American hip-hop artist Dynamax to thousands of hip-hop loving Kenyans in Kisumu and Nairobi April 15 to 18. Ambassador of the hip hop culture to audiences around the world, Dynamax conducted workshops and performed with talented local hip hop artists and fans here in Kenya.

Dynamax began his Kenya tour in Kisumu with an interview on Sahara Radio 94.3 FM, which covers a wide area of western Kenya, eastern Uganda, and the Rift Valley. He discussed the history and five elements of hip hop and even free styled and did a little beat box for a grateful listening audience. Later he conducted a workshop with local DJs, demonstrating his DJ "tricks" and looking on as they tried them out themselves. That evening restaurant/bar Mon Ami filled up with hip-hop fans dancing as fast as Dynamax could spin.

Back in Nairobi, Dynamax conducted several interactive workshops with around 50 DJs, MCs, and break dancers in Kangemi and at the Sarakasi Dome in Ngara. Friday night Dynamax was the star performer at the Sarakasi Dome's DJ Dance Marathon. Over 500 people danced, rapped, and donated. Yes, donated. Participants were encouraged to donate unga (flour), clothes, and cash to help Kenyans in need during this tragic drought, and many did combine their love of hip hop with their determination to give back. On Saturday Dynamax entertained a crowd of over 3,000, jumping into the audience, free styling about his experience in Kenya, and ending his tour with an incredible send-off from an adoring new fan club.